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CENTER LINE
MONTANA'S HIGHWAYS

Published bi-monthly for the employees of the Montana Department of Highways, state-wide.

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May-June, 1973

Trainees Learn Skills for Future Jobs In Heavy Highway Construction

Marc Cramer is a man full of enthusiasm for his job, because he feels it is an upbeat thing with visible success for his efforts.

Marc is an instructor for a special group of trainees at the Missoula Vo-Technical School . . . guys with lots of potential who only five months ago had no expectation of acquiring needed skills which would enable them to find and hold desirable jobs.

Cramer brought seven of his 14 students to Helena May 8th. The trip was one of several outside field trips in connection with their training which prepares them for jobs in the field of heavy highway construction or maintenance. They toured the highway department, the labor training school at the fairgrounds, met with Governor Thomas L. Judge, and representatives of the Montana Contractors Association.

The federal government, through the Federal Highway Administration, requires states to assign trainees to federally-funded projects as part of the equal employment opportunity program, which assists minorities and disadvantaged persons to obtain jobs on a competitive basis.

The Department of Highways administers the program, and the Montana Contractors Association handles the actual recruitment of trainees on a contract basis.

It was discovered early that potential trainees frequently are lacking certain basic background skills which would help them learn their new jobs, even as apprentices.

The department then contracted with the MCA to provide schooling for the trainees. The MCA sub-contracted with the Missoula Vo-Tech Center to institute a special training course, lasting 22 weeks, to prepare the trainees to seek jobs in heavy highway construction.

The first class began January 5, 1973, with the MCA recruiting 14 students to begin the program. Classes include instruction in operating heavy equipment, truck driving, laborer work, mechanics, carpenter-

(continued on page 3)

PRACTICAL TRAINING—Cecil Meade, left, and an unidentified co-worker, learn how to use the proper tools and techniques in various job situations, such as above, where they are laying underground pipes.

Buswell, DeVore, Wheeler Retire With 83 Years of Service

Three retirements from Helena headquarters made news this spring. They were Howard Buswell, administrator-centralized services division; Don B. DeVore, administrator-motor pool division; and John D. Wheeler, commission secretary.

Promoted to fill two job openings were William Blake, former Missoula division maintenance bureau chief, to administrator-motor pool division, and Jay Duba, former construction inspector, construction division, Helena, to Missoula division maintenance bureau chief.

CENTER LINE
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

THOMAS L. JUDGE
GOVERNOR

GEORGE VUCANOVICH
CHAIRMAN
Helena

WILLIAM M. KESSNER
VICE CHAIRMAN
Black Eagle

G. R. COONEY
Butte

PIERRE L. BACHELLER
Billings

JAY LALONDE
Sidney

JOHN D. WHEELER
SECRETARY
Helena

H. J. ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS

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BEVERLY GIBSON, EDITOR

Division Correspondents

Billings	James Young
Bozeman	Barbara McGuire
Butte	Karen Markovich
Glendive	Nancy Siegle
Great Falls	Ciel Tinelli
Havre	Edna Hess
Helena	Bev Gibson
Kalispell	Bob Finley
Lewistown	Bea Knerr
Miles City	Jean Sweeney
Missoula	Clara Neely
Wolf Point	Ollie Hauge

News items of interest to Highway Department employees are invited. They should be given to the correspondents listed above.

Howard Buswell announced his retirement to take effect July 6 following 26 years with the department. Buswell was born in Utah and graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in business administration. He spent 3½ years in the U.S. Army during World War II, and worked for the welfare department, Great Falls; the Helena Housing Authority; and the water board, Helena.

Buswell

His first position with the highway department, in 1947, was clerk in the planning survey section. He later rose to planning survey manager before being promoted to administrative coordinator in 1965. The title was changed to assistant state highway engineer-administration in 1968, and upon executive reorganization in January 1972, to administrator-centralized services.

DeVore was born in Billings and took an International Correspondence School degree in mathematics. He served with the U.S. Navy Seabees during World War II. He first worked for the highway department in 1929 as a rodman and had served more than 41 years with the agency when he retired April 30. He rose through project engineer to division construction engineer, and was appointed state construction engineer in 1957. In 1964 he was appointed deputy state highway engineer. In 1971 he was charged with setting up the new statewide motor vehicle pool.

DeVore

John D. Wheeler also announced his retirement for July 6 after 16 years with the department. Wheeler was born in Iowa where he graduated from high school, although he spent some time in Ringling, Montana where he attended grade and high schools. He worked for the Union Bank and Trust Co. in Helena for five years before going into the livestock financing business, which took him through out Montana. During World War II he was regional director of the War Foods Administration in Denver, where he was in charge of importation of foreign labor. Later he served in the U.S. Navy. He first came to work for the highway department in 1957 as a right of way appraiser in Helena, but after four months he was named to the position of Commission Secretary. He served under Governors J. Hugo Aronson, Donald Nutter, Tim Babcock, Forrest Anderson and Thomas Judge.

Wheeler

An executive confided in a friend why he disliked working with women in business. "If you treat them like a man, they cry. And if you treat them like a woman, your wife cries."

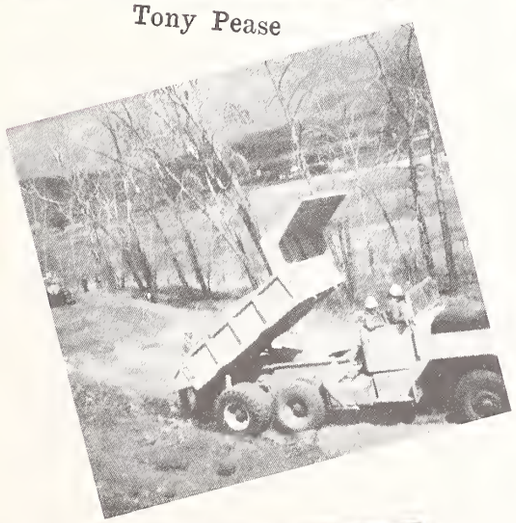
Trainees Learn Skills—

(continued from page 1)

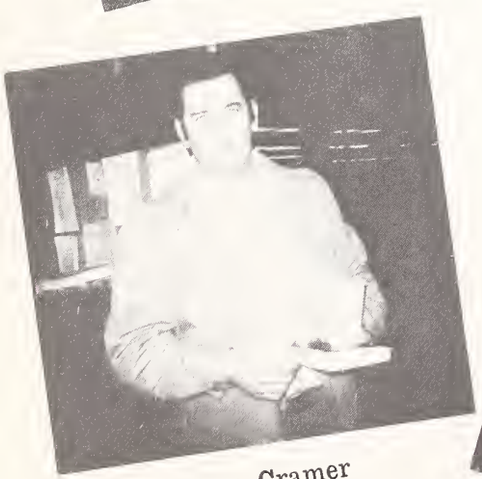
ing, plus a survey of all phases of construction work. Classes take place within the building as well as at actual construction sites in the Missoula area. Students also repair and overhaul some equipment for local construction firms.

Cramer said there are a large number of placements prior to graduation. In the first class, at least six students were ready to go to work early, and the rest are almost assured of jobs waiting for them when they graduate. Contractors are well pleased with their trainee-employees, Cramer said. For instance, one man, August Left Hand, now works for McIntyre Construction Co., as a truck driver, and the company said "I wish all our employees were as careful and dedicated as this man."

Tony Pease



Ken Azure



Marc Cramer

DOH CIVIL DEFENSE ROLE OUTLINED

The Department of Highways has an important role in civil defense, and is assigned certain emergency functions in the state disaster plan. The director of the Department of Highways, the administrator of the engineering division, and the administrator of the maintenance division have been designated by the Governor as members of the Civil Defense staff, and during emergencies will report to the state emergency operating center.

The administrator of the engineering division is required to coordinate all engineering problems that confront the state Civil Defense staff during emergencies such as: repair of damaged roads and bridges, restoration of utilities, removal of debris, re-routing and regulation of traffic through the activation of the emergency highway traffic regulation plan. Two hundred and ten highway maintenance personnel at all division headquarters and 59 section locations have been trained as radiological monitors and are assigned kits of instruments to measure and report radiation levels during nuclear emergencies.

The Department of Highways has agreed to allow the use of their statewide radio network for reporting radiation levels, damage assessment, and any other emergency action required by civil defense.

To maintain constant operation of the network, an emergency power unit has been installed at headquarters and arrangements are being made to install others in the field, as they become available through the excess property program.

The next class will begin in September for a similar number of trainees. Classes are kept small to permit personal counseling and individual teaching; finding the aptitudes and fields of interest of each student; and providing opportunity for personal rapport between instructor and student.

Students making the trip to Helena were Freeman Bluedog, Ken Azure, Ken Plentyhoops, Alex LaForge, Jr., Steve Ducharme, Dana Deranleau and Richard Pautz.

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Missoula

Clara Neely

This past month has seen many changes in personnel. The one which affects us most directly is the appointment of William A. Blake as administrator of the motor pool and Jay Duba's appointment as chief of the Missoula maintenance division. We are sorry to see Mr. Blake leave, and happy to have Mr. Duba as his replacement. Congratulations are in order for both of you, and additional congratulations to Mr. Blake on the birth of a granddaughter.

Duba, Blake

Floyd Strickler and Dan Gibson have transferred to the Bozeman division. Bruce Anderson, Laurence Dreamer, John McCormick and Barry Scalise have all resigned. Bob Hutton retired April 30th.

Dennis Devaney and Douglas Lutke have been reemployed in construction and John Schiltz in maintenance. New employees are Jan Allen in the office and Robert Nicely as serviceman.

Completing twenty years of faithful and efficient service were Kenneth Herman and Carl Smith, followed by James Lyon with 15 years.

Lowell Smith returned from Las Vegas all decked out in a fancy towel. Mum is the word about what happened to his shirt.

Our bowlers have turned out to be a modest group. They tell us how well their wives did in the Helena tournament, with no word of their own prowess.

Leonard LeRoux was in to tell us about his winter in the New England and midwestern states. He looks ever so much better than when he left in January.

Mere words cannot express our sympathy to the Ed Jettes in the tragic loss of their two sons. I am sure that they understand we wish there were something we could do to help ease the burden of grief.

TWELFTH ANNUAL HIGHWAY BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Helena, May 4, 5, 6, 1973

MEN'S DIVISION

MEN'S TEAM EVENT (52)
1. Columbia Paints (Helena) 3045
2. Flashy Five (Helena) 2995
3. Travelers No. 1 (Helena) 2964

MEN'S SINGLES EVENT (256)
1. Norman Simonich (Whitehall) 705
2. Homer Wheeler (Helena) 687
3. Art Braut (Miles City) 684

MEN'S DOUBLES (128)
1. Don Kittleson—Mike Zahn (Billings) 1264
2. Zip Rigler—Ray Jezick (Helena) 1263
3. Gordon LaFournaise—Dave Dennis (Helena) 1263

MEN'S ALL EVENTS (228)
1. Homer Wheeler (Helena) 1994
2. Ben Jas (Miles City) 1950
3. Harry Strong (Great Falls) 1947

HIGH GAME—SCRATCH
Ozzie Nelson (Helena) 265

HIGH GAME—HANDICAP
Dick Ronan (Helena) 281

HIGH SERIES—SCRATCH
Harry Strong (Great Falls) 662

HIGH SERIES—HANDICAP
Norman Simonich (Whitehall) 705

WOMEN'S DIVISION

WOMEN'S TEAM EVENT (20)
1. Missoula Misfits (Missoula) 2993
2. Hi-Way Belles (Lewistown) 2987
3. Big Timber Gals (Big Timber) 2863

WOMEN'S SINGLES (104)
1. Bev Gagner (Shelby) 697
2. Lu Roberts (Missoula) 675
3. Bernice Myers (Lewistown) 670

WOMEN'S DOUBLES (52)
1. Hallie Fuller—Peg DeLaHunt (Helena) 1293
2. Audrey Tomich—June Stewart (Great Falls) 1270
3. Myra Anderson—Pat Rutherford (Helena) 1230

WOMEN'S ALL EVENTS (78)
1. Bev Gagner (Shelby) 1984
2. Bernice Myers (Lewistown) 1969
3. June Stewart (Belt) 1828

HIGH SCRATCH GAME
Hallie Fuller (Helena) 231

HIGH HANDICAP GAME
Gretchen Sprout (Bozeman) 270

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES
Bernice Myers (Lewistown) 597

HIGH HANDICAP SERIES
Bev Gagner (Shelby) 697

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Butte

—Karen Markovich—

How often do you hear about being proud parents twice in eight months? Very possible, say Mr. and Mrs. Don Doner, parents of Daniel Patrick, eight months and Matthew Thomas, one week. Daniel, adopted, will have a playmate very close to his age with Matt bouncing in. We all wish you the very best of luck and congratulations. Keep up the good work! Don, a rodman for Bill Birkenbuel, works in the Dillon area.

Teri Darragh is an old smiling face back with our Department of Highways. Teri has just finished her junior year at Carroll College and this is her third summer with us. Her future plans include returning to Carroll this fall and graduating in elementary education. Nice to see you again, Teri!

Congratulations are in order for Belinda Fischer, nine year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Fischer. Belinda is a third grader at Madison School where she competed in a track meet and was awarded a trophy for her efforts. A dinner and trophy presentation was held at the East Junior High for the Madison and Harrison teams. Robert is our own utility agent in the construction department.

"Busy" is the word for Evie Trudeau, who is looking forward to a hectic month, what with her two sons graduating. Pat, the eldest son, is graduating from Montana State University with a major in microbiology. Pat has been a member of the National Honor Society and says he is hoping to pursue his career in medical research. Evie's youngest son, Mike, will be graduating from Butte Central and his plans are looking towards entering the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, or better known, Montana Tech, in the fall. Many congratulations to both of you and we wish you much success. Evie is the cheerful hello that you hear coming from the communications department. We all are very happy for you, Ev!

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Giles of Twin Bridges are the new owners of the King Motel. We wish them much success in their new venture. Jack Giles is an appraiser in the R/W department at Butte.

Mr. and Mrs. Evan I. Martinsen became grandparents for the third time with the birth of a son to their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Harrington of Klamath Falls, Oregon. They have named this guy Ty Cameron. Evan Martinsen is the review appraiser in the R/W department at Butte.

Just before Easter weekend, Agent Thomas Kelly was a victim of a terrific snowstorm . . . he was stranded in Bozeman overnight and couldn't get home. During this time he was subjected to the inconveniences of a comfortable motel and color TV, etc. When he returned to the office, he was comforted and eventually his good humor returned. According to Tom, it was quite an ordeal!

A welcome addition to Bill Bettle's crew on Divide-South of I-15 is Martin VanMil and Bill Doble, being transferred from Ray Master's crew at Deer Lodge.

Our Butte State Employees Federal Credit Union recently received a "Thrift Honor Award" from the National Credit Union Administration for member's savings increases during 1972. This was an extreme honor to our Credit Union as we were the only Credit Union in the Butte area to receive such an award and few of these awards are given out each year to the more than 13,000 Federal Credit Unions.

Our Credit Union Board of Directors is also in the process of possible expansion of our "field of membership" to include city and Silver Bow county public employees, along with our present state employees. A request to this effect is now awaiting final action by the National Credit Union Administration.

Work is also beginning on the new Credit Union office. This office is being built by Jack Colvin, our Treasurer-Manager, who is building a new garage and office combination building. The fast growing Credit Union is rapidly exceeding its present office space which has been in Jack's home for the past 3½ years since its initial organization. It is hoped that this new office will be completed by fall of this year.

Karen Markovich, our communication gal, is not only efficient on the radio, teletype, and telephone, but she also does a terrific job as our new Centerline reporter. Karen has been working for the highway department since March 11, 1971. She is 5'2" with green eyes and has a winning personality.

Karen's outside interests are many, ranging from her boyfriend, Larry Briney, to bowling two nights a week. Just a few weeks ago she accomplished what most of us bowlers would like to do, hit a big 236. How is that for e x c i t e m e n t. Congratulations, Karen.

Bozeman

—Barbara McGuire—

Wilma Bogar is our new gal in the Bozeman office. She is a southern gal hailing from Missouri, and she is inclined to throw in a "you-all" quite regularly. She and her h u s b a n d, Gary, lived in Kansas and Tennessee while he worked on his Masters and Ph.D in math. They came to Bozeman in 1968 when he became a professor of math at Montana State University. They have three girls, Kristina, age 12; Lisa, age 11; and Louisa,

Wilma

age 7. Wilma is active in Girl Scout activities which takes up most of her spare time. She also enjoys traveling back to Missouri to visit friends and family.

Congratulations to Jim Brooks on the recent arrival of his third grandchild, a little girl.

Our California convert, Cliff Farrington, is now converting his family. In a few weeks he is taking off to California to help his daughter and son-in-law move to Bozeman. They

WITH THE DIVISIONS

came visiting and liked it so well they decided to move here. We welcome the Jack Vermillions to Montana.

Three men have transferred into the Bozeman division to work on the engineering crews. They are Floyd Strickler and Dan Gibson from Missoula, and Myron Wilson from data processing in Helena. We also have three new engineering employees and they are Mike Bartz, Jerry Malcott and Burton Hopewell. Welcome all.

Ed Reiser is moving back into the house he lived in when he came to work here in 1958. Even though moving is bad news, one good thing happened; they found a hot water bottle that has been missing for seven years. It leaks a little now.

Dennis Williams has done his part for the fuel shortage by buying a vehicle from the same people who gave us Pearl Harbor.

The annual election of officers of Local 1621 was held recently with Jack Ranta as president; Ronda Planichek as secretary; Les Saunders as vice president; and Harold Heath and Archie Little as executive board members. Following the installation, there was a large celebration with the result being a very long, long day the next day.

Ed Reiser, E. P. Elgen, Dan Urbach, and Cliff Farrington are teaching the local Boy Scouts the fundamentals of surveying in order that they may earn the surveying merit badge.

As of this date, we haven't received the official results of the bowling tournament held in Helena but from all reports received in this office, the Drinking Team did quite a lot better than the Bowling Team. Just ask Larry O. Williams, he can tell you what a good time was had by our group.

Bus Parmly, sectionman at West Yellowstone, received a nice letter of thanks from the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce for his crew's help in fighting a fire which leveled three businesses there in March. They used a rotary and dozer to dump snow on the blaze.

Abe and Ruby Fuller are off on a trip to Missouri to visit Ruby's mother.

George Conrad, maintenanceman I, and DiLyn Miller, daughter of Dick Miller, are getting married in Bozeman on June 15. DiLyn just returned from a trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she participated in the National Secretaries Contest. She represented the Vo-Tech School here in Bozeman.

Jim Brooks and his maintenance crew have been busy this week redecking and widening the wood and steel Spain-Ferris Ditch Bridge on the Norris Cutoff.

Havre

Edna Hess

The Havre division was saddened by the sudden death of maintenance supervisor I Harold Jimison, on April 29th. Harold had been employed steadily since April 4, 1949, and had been supervisor since October 16, 1964, all in the Shelby section.

Our sympathy is extended to Paul Green, maintenanceman II, and his family on the sudden death of Paul's father at Harlem on April 18th. Paul works out of the Havre section and is currently in charge of the striping machine.

Office Manager Clarence Ratchye is shown presenting plaeques and congratulating two retired employees who were honored at a dinner dance held at the Elks Country Club April 6th and attended by co-workers, their spouses and guests. Arthur W. Thompson retired as supervisor I,

Ratchye, Thompson

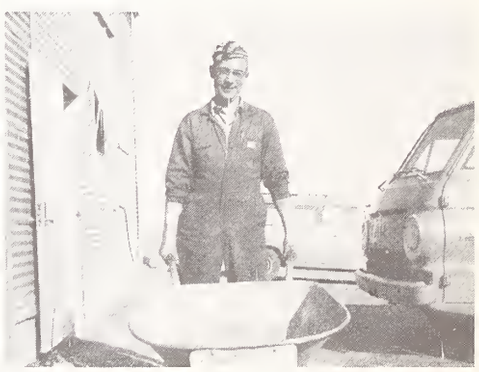
Havre section, after nearly 38 years of service. Members of Mr. Thompson's family were guests and included Kim and Gordon Thompson, both students, Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Wolery, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ceynar and Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Evans.

Fred A. Paul retired as supervisor I from the Dupuyer section after 31 years of service. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wiley of Great Falls were guests.

Paul, Ratchye

Mr. Wiley, chief-field maintenance bureau, Great Falls, presented Fred with a replica of the highway department truck he used in maintenance work and stenciled with mobile radio call 31-7, which was Fred's call number when he worked for the Great Falls division.

Harold Ceynar, mechanic in the Havre division shop, was originally from North Dakota. The truck pictured here in Harold's capable hands was furnished with a North Dakota license plate in an effort to make him feel more at home.



Ceynar

Paul V. Nicholson was promoted to maintenance supervisor I in the Havre section after the retirement of Arthur W. Thompson.

Wolf Point

Ollie Hauge

Norris A. Forum, manager-field project unit 1, resigned effective April 13 to work for the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce. Norris has been bridge engineer in the Wolf Point division for the past several years and

WITH THE DIVISIONS

had completed 16 years of service with the Department. He will take time off between jobs to visit his mother, who was injured in a train accident in the early part of April. Sounded as though he had a busy schedule lined up with the Chamber. We wish you luck, Norris.

Albert Bonner, manager-field project unit II, of the Great Falls division, has replaced Norris Forum as bridge engineer. Al "dug" right in on the Oswego bridge contract, which is underway. Welcome to the gang, Al.

Ronald Ueland, instrumentman on Jim Baldwin's crew at Culbertson, resigned effective March 23 to try his hand at farming. He and his family have moved to the Antelope area. We hope your new venture is successful, Ron. Jim feels sort of deserted since Ron left, as the only other member of his crew has been working out of the Wolf Point headquarters.

The influx of summer temporaries has begun. Myron Pipe, Arnt Stafne and Ken Hoversland have joined the Wolf Point maintenance forces and Mitchel Dereschuk will go on permanent status as a replacement. Gary Bollinger will be stationed at Glasgow for the summer. Sandra Timms and David Zoanni will help Jim Baldwin for the summer in construction work. Jim is preparing to start oiling operations in the Antelope area.

Office Manager Gunner Brenden attended the union meeting in Helena recently. He ran across an old Army friend who is also quite an authority on fishing—bet Gunner's wife, Bernice, thought she wouldn't get him home again. He had a few "fishy" fish tales to tell and is patiently waiting to get back to that area. With all of these new "inside techniques," look out, Fort Peck!

Glendive

Nancy Siegle

Gary Gray, rodman, was injured April 17 in a motorcycle accident. He was in serious condition and transferred to Deaconess Hospital in Billings by ambulance. Gary's back at work now, though, and seems to be doing fine.

Wayne Monte and wife, Joyce, enjoyed a week in Puerto Rico recently. Joyce, a hairdresser, attended a hair stylists convention while there.

Ray Freiboth, supervisor-field maintenance section at Terry, had a light heart attack but is doing real well now.

Tony Scherting, office manager, is back at work after about two months off recuperating from surgery. Tony's patiently awaiting the arrival of June 1st as this is the date his retirement takes effect.

Jack Riley, chief-field maintenance bureau, has been in Oregon for the past two weeks where his father-in-law was seriously ill and then passed away. We extend our sympathy to Jack and his family.

All the new homeowners who built their homes last year are busy planting their lawns and gardens now and patiently waiting for them to grow.

Nancy Siegle and husband, Dale, bought a new 14x70' trailer house last December and now, only five months later have come to the realization that they want a house so are trying to sell their mobile home. Anyone interested?

Jerry Kuester, division office engineer I, recently bought a nice, big, older home to replace his smaller home. He sold his house before it was even advertised.

Clyde Mitchell, truck driver U 5 T, underwent surgery on his knee the first part of May. He will be off work for about six weeks.

Great Falls

Ciel Tinelli

We missed out on the Centerline last issue so some of our news will be rather dated, but it is news so here goes—To Malcolm and Marie Marshall and to Bev and Milt Ingersoll we extend our heartfelt sympathies in the loss of a loved member of their families. Marie's mother died after an extended illness, and Bev's father, E. O. "Everett" Howe of Rogers Pass, succumbed to a heart attack in Long Beach, Calif. Walter "Casey" Wolff, who retired from our division, died the middle of March. Jerry Mans passed out cigars February 28th to announce that Chad Robert had arrived, so congratulations to Jerry and Colleen, and also to proud grandparents, Ed and Vera Mans. We are also very happy for Polly and George Davis who become grandparents (for the first time) to Christopher William, born to their son, Bill.

After 20 years of service with the Great Falls maintenance department, Robert Stewart, sectionman at Belt, retired on March 30th. He was presented with a replica of his "31-16" orange dump truck filled with silver

Stewart

dollars, and coffee and cake were served in his honor. Dale Harnish and Arlen Hughes, both R/W agents, also decided to bid us farewell. Dale plans on just being downright lazy but Arlen is rolling up his sleeves to become an independent fee appraiser. We all wished them good luck at a cake and coffee klatch.

Hughes, Harnish

Ruth Franklin broke her foot while skiing on Kings Hill, so hubby Gary has been displaying a pair of dishpan hands. Nancy Richardson proved that Woman's Lib is here to stay. She won the coveted Master-Solo Trophy awarded by the Sports Car Club of Montana. She competed in the Town and Country Autocross in Great Falls and the Black Otter Hillclimb in Billings. Best of all, Nancy

WITH THE DIVISIONS

is sporting a lovely diamond on her left hand and Howie Hahn is the lucky guy.

Nancy

Two of our field project managers were assigned to structures outside the Great Falls division—Larry Cheziek is now at Kalispell and Al Bonner went to Wolf Point. Hated to see these boys leave us.

George Larson, maintenanceman II from Rogers Pass, belongs to the Great Falls Horseshoe Club and was one of the top contenders in the state's final competition held this last fall at Fort Peck. He came in third place. One has to average above 50% ringers to stay in the "A" class, so he's got to be pretty good.

Jim Cloninger, also maintenanceman II at Rogers Pass, and his wife Gail, belong to a Roping Club and they both excel in calf and team roping. When the ice was thick enough to go spear fishing on Lake Francis, Tom Hammerbacker and Glen Arps, our Conrad boys, kept all of their friends supplied with fresh fish, mostly northern pike. Lucky friends. Spook Knowles, we just found out, keeps the weather temperatures for the state weather bureau at Helena. He does this in his own back yard. He keeps records of the hi's and low's and sends them into Helena daily. He has been doing this for the last 15 years and gratis too; how about that. And finally, Elvis Presley could take lessons from Tony Tomich and his boys when it comes to running through the thickets and shaking off the woodticks. Seems as if Gary Steen won a Gold Star for 10 ticks all at one time while working the Fort Benton-Loma job.

Miles City

Jean Sweeney

A baby girl was born to Joe and Jacquelyn Schneidt, March 21 in a Miles City hospital. She has been named Kimberly Lynn. The Schneidts adopted a little boy two years ago, who was five years old and who had lost both parents, and now he has a little sister. Congratulations to you, Joe and Jacquelyn. Joe is instrumentman working with Walt Dane on structures in the Miles City division.

Delmer F. Borer, manager-field project unit II in the Miles City division, is now Alderman Borer in the 4th Ward, as a result of the city election held May 7. Del and his

Borer

wife, Mary Ann, are parents of four children, two boys and two girls: Dana John, 13; Evan, 12; Karen, 11 and Sarah, 1.

It is with deep regret we report the passing of Herbert R. Waldow, supervisor-field maintenance section in the Miles City division. Herbert suffered a heart attack in the Miles City division yard shortly after reporting for work March 12. He was taken by ambulance to the local hospital where he passed away a few hours later. He is survived by his wife, Lillian, and two stepsons. Herb worked for the highway department in Miles City for 27 years.

Dan Bidwell has purchased a sawmill at Ashland and has resigned his position as maintenanceman III in the Miles City division, in order to devote full time to his new occupation. He has sold his home in Miles City and will be moving his family soon to his new location.

Carl Turley, mechanic and blacksmith in the Miles City shop, was really ineapacitated reeently when he had to have surgery on both hands. Carl is back at work now after an absenee of over two months. He says he can't bowl yet but he is sure going to Helena to the highway bowling tournament.

Glen Blow, maintenaneeman II, has resigned his position in the Miles City division to go into private business in Colorado.

Charles A. (Casey) Jones, maintenanceman III, was promoted recently to supervisor-field maintenance section to fill the position left vacant by the passing of Herbert Waldow.

Dennis L. Blunt, maintenanceman II, was promoted to maintenaneeman III to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Dan Bidwell.

Claude Hagan, maintenanceman I, was promoted to maintenanceman II to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Glen Blow.

Billings

James Young

Jim Liedle, son of Jack Liedle, geologist, reeeived an appointment to West Point. Jim was appointed by Senators Mike Mansfield and John Meleher and has reeeived phone calls from both confirming the appointment. He will report July 2, 1973, for 2½ months of intensive training before his regular assignment and is due to graduate with the class of 1977. Jim has been a straight A student at West High School in Billings and is in the National Honor Society. A Boys Stater at Dillon last year, Jim has been asked to speak to this year's Boys State delegates. He has lettered in wrestling and is now trying for the West High tennis team. Congratulations Jim, you have worked hard for this honor, a goal you have had in mind since junior high school.

A late confirmed news item circulating in Billings reports that Bumpy Learn, Billings lab, has designed and supervised construetion of what appears to be a rest area adjacent to the Billings office. Due to a very limited budget, tables and benches have been withdrawn from the original contract. Coneern is voiced

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by all Billings personnel that if the shortage of funds isn't remedied soon, uninformed people may start using the area as a parking lot.

Ken Bowersox had fair luck on his last fishing trip to Glendive; however, Gene Smith said the fishing was good, he snagged a good sized paddlefish, a 60 pounder, from fish weight judges.

Smith

Veronica Messer, wife of Peter Messer, sign painter, is recovering after open heart surgery at Deaconess Hospital in Billings.

Mabel Trythall returned home after eye surgery. She is doing real well.

Arnie Weiss and Jack Liedle are both on the job following spinal surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. Norm Gutcher are parents of a daughter, Heather, who weighed in at seven pounds.

Mrs. Carol Evanson, daughter of Gertrude Rykken, radio operator, has a new son.

Joe Rawlins, husband of Gym Rawlins, R/W steno, has a special honor. Joe's geology report was included in a special issue of Coal Age Magazine. Joe has been prospecting most of Eastern Montana for potential coal fields for the past several years. Joe said Montana and Wyoming have huge coal reserves, far more than any other state.

Ralph Daniels, engineering aide II, has resigned. Fran Hummell, serviceman, has resigned. Fran will manage the Knights of Columbus Club in Billings. Kim Hayfield will replace Fran in the service department. Speaking of servicemen, Mike Degnan, former serviceman, was in the office the other day to say hello.

Garth Hougaard, Don Delmonica, and Howard Klovstad of the lab have been testing steel bridge welds with the new ultrasonic weld tester device.

Congratulations for a well run tournament to the Helena Bowling Committee from all the Billings bowlers.

Dale Harcharik, Bill Meinhardt, John Michunovich and Ed Waldhauser will begin work on a state-wide assessment of advertising signs soon. Two men will work the eastern half of the state and two the western half. The program is expected to be completed in about two weeks.

Bill and Peggy Contreraz are attempting to take a foster child into their home. Bill said they hope to share their home with some unfortunate child. Bill and Peggy have two sons.

William Shipman, R/W agent, will retire May 31. Bill has been with the right of way department almost ten years and will really be missed. Good luck, Bill, on whatever you try next.

Bill's son-in-law, Art Professor Ben Steel of Eastern Montana College in Billings, has been honored. He has been asked to donate some of his oil paintings to the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. Ben has several paintings of prisoner of war life in the Philippines.

Stan Krohmer has a new home located on Avenue B. Stan has been busy painting the pink house white.

Kalispell

—Bob Finley—

The vernal equinox is upon us and the warm weather has stirred a bustle of activity. The warm weather has the maintenance forces busy. A rash of retirements and resignations has produced a case of musical chairs that is still in progress. Al Taylor, the sectionman from Columbia Falls, has transferred to the Lakeside section. Gary Wagener moved up the ladder from maintenanceman IV, Bigfork, to sectionman to fill the vacancy created in Columbia Falls. Gale Barton moved from Kalispell shop to Columbia Falls section, LeRoy Lucke from Elmo to Kalispell section, and Don McLeod from Summit to Nyack.

Jerry Hanson resigned to go into the fence contracting business. Jerry started with the engineers and transferred to maintenance and at the time of his resignation was maintenanceman IV of the Columbia Falls section. Another engineer who crossed over the line was Pete Vaughan, who left Tom Barnard's crew to work under Bill Delaney on the Polson section. Dave Tousey, the sky diver, resigned to go into the flyboy business for himself. He plans to slip south of the border for a couple of months before going off into the wild blue yonder.

Rick Morgan from Eureka section crossed to greener pastures outside the folds of the highway gang. Richard Sipe began work April 30 as serviceman to replace Dan Butts, who is working on the Olney section now. Dan is sporting a spiffy new motorcycle to thrill the Olney Chamber of Commerce. Jack Beaver took up his new duties as temporary man in the shop the end of April also.

Would like to pass a bouquet to Linda Miller and the other ladies in the office for jotting down the tidbits that eventually find their way into this column. The several rush jobs and the main office being "off limits" to field crews makes it a bit hard to gather news. The assistance of these people is greatly appreciated. They make me feel much like the "Silver Haired Lt. Gen. Banks" of Kipling fame. A small token of the esteem for our office girls was extended by our Chief of Maintenance Bill Hebert, who took the ladies to the Elks Club for lunch on National Secretary's Day. The boys in the shop chipped in for a box of candy to extend their appreciation of our secretarial staff. They are the greatest. Bravo!

Larry Nachtsheim of the PERS was in the Kalispell division with stops in Libby, Kalispell and Polson explaining the effect the recently passed laws will have on members of the system. He demonstrated his knowledge of the program with his handling of the many questions posed to him during the meeting. The staff at PERS are all qualified and on a recent trip I took to Helena for the sole purpose of gleaning more information, Marie Klemme was able to answer my queries in less than fifteen minutes.

On the recent trip to Valhalla I renewed acquaintance with P. E. Thompson and had lunch with Tom

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Wing. Also had a pleasant discourse with LeRoy Broughton of the personnel department who was genuinely interested in matters in the field. Also had the pleasure of chatting with Kermit Anderson and the staff in the information section. The entire staff reflects the grace and congeniality of Mr. Anderson. A sterling example of what a department head should be.

Jill Hunt, the wife of Rodman Jack Hunt, is recovering from surgery. Henry Mally is in Spokane for surgery and will be off work for a few weeks. The prognosis is very favorable in both cases and we wish a speedy and pleasant recovery. Al Fopp also is scheduled for surgery and hopefully everything will be A-OK.

Sympathy is extended to Ray Hamilton and family on the loss of Mrs. Gamache, who is "Van's" mother and also the aunt of Elden Gamache of our bridge section.

The members of the Ten Pin Topplers returned from the annual bowling tourney and reported a grand time in spite of the absence of one of the anchor men. The union delegates also returned with stirred up incentive and termed the meeting "most productive."

Mary Ellen Connelly has joined the ranks of the footlight brigade and is doing the props for the upcoming production of "The Mousetrap." It is a comforting thought while doing a Sarah Bernhardt that you are backed behind the flats with such people as Mary Ellen.

A retirement party was held May 19 at Hennessy's Supper Club for Marvel Nichol and Iven Herron. Marvel will spend her last day with the department on June 30. She has spent 18 years brightening the front office and will be greatly missed. She is looking forward to relaxing from the harrassment and making use of the new camper that they have. Iven has been gracing our halls for a period of 31½ years and I have known him all through the period from raising hell to raising Herefords and this party was like old times again. I think it was termed . . . A fond adieu, auf Wiedersehen—be seeing you—by one of the singers in Die Fledermaus.

The picture is a painting that was presented to Iven Herron at the party. The picture was painted by Loren Dollan of our engineering department.

Fred Wells popped into the office looking hale and hearty and enjoying his retirement. He planned to attend the party for Iven and Marvel, having worked with both of them for several years.

Helena—Hdq.

—Bev Gibson—

Fred Vinson, personnel, cheered Sunday, May 6th, when his wife, Edrie, graduated Magma cum Laude from Carroll College with a bachelor's degree in history. Her honors thesis was on Coxey's Army, the first definitive work that has been done on that long ago western historical figure.

Ellen Dennis, office service, sent her husband, Dave, a super-deluxe-size cigar upon his elevation to president of the Helena Lions Club.

Rose Marie Skoog, wife of Ken Skoog, road design, was elected Montana Legal Secretary of the Year by the State Association of Legal Secretaries. She is the outgoing president of the Helena Legal Secretaries Association, and is employed at Keller, Reynolds and Drake.

Tom Peake, preconstruction, was guest speaker at a meeting of the Helena Jayceens. He discussed the recent Miss Helena contest, which he served as sponsor chairman.

Several highway employees are taking a course in handwriting analysis at the Vo-Tech school. So don't send handwritten notes to Faith Hustad, library, Audrey Bridges, accounting, or Dick McIntyre, bridge.

Jim Powell's daughter, Ruth, received several superior ratings in the southern state music festival held at Bozeman. Her "superiors" were won in vocal solo, duet, and sophomore girls ensemble. Pete Zander's daughter, Patti, also took two "superior" awards—a vocal solo, and a duet with Ruth. (Jim is in contract plans and Pete is in R/W.)

Audrey Bridges, accounting, doesn't see so much of her husband lately, since Web has been elevated to lieutenant in the Highway Patrol and transferred to Lewistown.

Marie Ursich, planning and research, was named Woman of the Year by members of Big Sky Chapter, American Business Woman Association. Marie is president of her chapter, is a charter member, and has held nearly every office and chaired several committees.

Jim Ferguson, bridge, is having a one-man show of his art at the Union Bank and Trust Company in June. Jim works in watercolors, oils and pen and ink; his subjects range from still lifes, portraits, animals to landscapes. He prefers to make his own frames. He will have about 20 pictures in this show, all watercolors and pen and inks.

Burglars hit the Internal Review and Advertising Sections, heisting a load of goodies and starting small fires with smoke bombs. Several personal radios were taken, and a calculator, briefcase, telephone, 30-cup percolater and six personalized coffee mugs. Files and desks were scattered and disarranged . . . a sight to startle any Monday-morning arrival.

A deep sense of loss is felt over the recent death of Edgar H. Scow, testing supervisor, materials bureau. His keen mind and dry wit will be greatly missed. His demonstration of courage in the last months of his terminal illness will be a lesson to all of us. Ed began his highway career as a lab technician in 1946. In 1951 he was made a research assistant. In 1950 he became a lab supervisor and in 1954 research supervisor. From 1958 to 1965 Ed was employed by private companies, returning in 1965 as materials supervisor and in 1969 was promoted to testing supervisor. Ed was one of the first men in the

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state to beeome certified as a senior engineering technieian by the Institute for the Certification of Engineering Technicians, sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Betty, and his fine family.

U. J. Trahan, EEO office, is proud of son John, who won the First Annual City School Marble Tournament. The new marble champ is a fifth grader at C. R. Anderson School.

Lewistown

—Bea Knerr—

Don Kraftenburg resigned from the Missouri River section to go into ranching business with his father in the Stanford area. We wish him well in his new venture.

Lewis Harrell was hired to replace Don Kraftenburg. Lewis and Mona and their three small sons, ranging in age from five through ten, moved to the Missouri River headquarters on April 9. Lewis has been employed with the Department of Highways for the past twelve years, starting as engineering aide I and working up, moving all around the division where construction work required men.

Frank Stolle, mechanic, slipped and broke a small bone in his ankle. He was laid up for a spell, but is back on the job and doing fine.

The MWBA Championship Bowling Tournament is in full swing in Lewistown beginning March 24th and running through May 20th, with 500 women's teams entered. Everyone so far reports a good time with some exceptional scores posted to date. A major breakdown on the weekend of May 5 and 6 caused some rescheduling of several teams, but the bowlers are very understanding and cooperative. Thanks to all concerned — Tournament Coordinators Flo Copen and Bea Knerr appreciate the overwhelming attitude of all.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Harcharik, chief-field maintenance bureau, are sporting a new "Weekender Camper." They are looking ahead to his retirement—soon—and traveling.

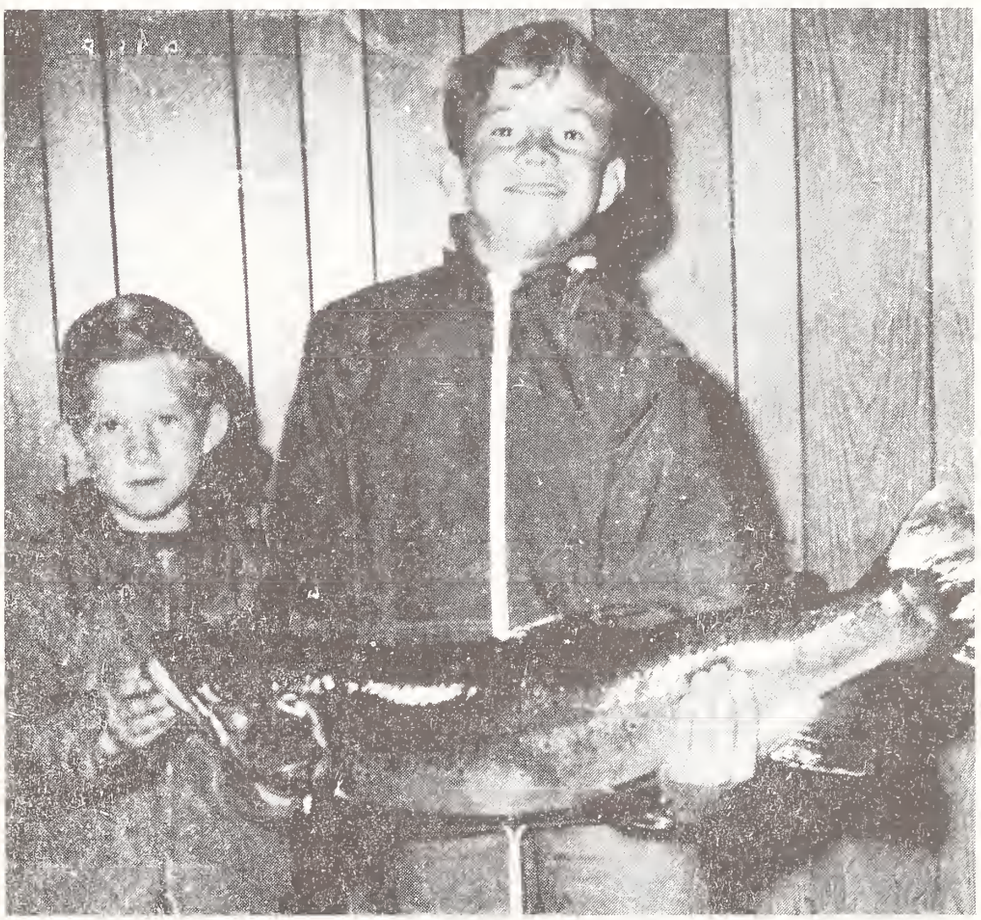
The Lewistown bowling teams that participated in the State Highway Bowling Tournament take this means of thanking all committees and anyone concerned for the well-run tournament and the wonderful banquet and dance on Saturday night. Each and every one of us enjoyed the weekend, (especially the places we received in the tournament, not known at this writing.)

Many fishermen have tried their luck already this spring, including two grandsons of Bea and Vern Knerr, shown in the enclosed article. All were pretty pleased.

Norman Kerr is a new employee in the White Sulphur Springs area. Norman and his wife, DeEtta, moved to White Sulphur Springs to join the maintenance force there on May 7th. Welcome to our gang.

Congratulations to Dale Flinders and wife Pat. They adopted a baby girl on March 26. Little Sherri Lynn was born March 17. Dale is a draftsman. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Chapman were blessed with a little girl March 14th. Robin Dustine weighed in at 6 lbs. and 5 oz. Bob is striping machine operator in the Lewistown division.

R. W. Freeman, supervisor-division construction, is recuperating from surgery last February. Losing weight is nothing now; 35 lbs. have already gone down the drain, with more to follow. Good luck, Bill.



BIG FISH, LITTLE FISHERMAN — Jess Knerr, 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Knerr of Upper Spring Creek, proudly holds the 14 lb. 6 oz. Lochie he caught near his home Wednesday night. Helping Jess hold the 30-inch trout is his little brother, Jerry, 7. The fish put up quite a fight, but Jess was able to land it. After he had reeled it into shallow water the fish broke the line and was about to get away when Jess jumped into the water and caught it with his hands. It managed to wiggle away from him but the determined young fisherman kicked it onto the bank. Jess was fishing with Rapala lure. He believes his catch is the same fish both he and his father hooked several times before. Jess, who is a sixth grade student at Garfield School, has been fishing since he was big enough to hold a pole. He plans to have his big fish mounted. Asked how he felt when he finally landed him, Jess replied with a grin, "Excited!" (Robert Donovan photo)

Vandalism Mars Beauty of Rest Areas

According to Robert J. Hunter, chief-field maintenance bureau, Butte, the dual rest area located at Opportunity on Interstate 90, west of Butte, was opened in 1965 for summer use only. Shortly after it was opened, the utility room was broken into and water valves and the electric panel were damaged by vandals. Outside lights were frequently shot out during this first season.

Early in the second season both areas were extensively vandalized. Approximately $3,000 was required for repairs. All doors were torn off, inside toilet partitions pulled out, toilets and wash basins damaged, all light fixtures torn out and destroyed, and obscene words painted throughout the inside. All outside lights and light meters were broken. Human excrement on the floors and in the wash basin, together with broken light fixtures, were a common occurrence that second year.

During the 1968 season both areas were again extensively vandalized. As before, all doors, partitions and fixtures were damaged. An underground sprinkler system was pulled out and sprinkler heads stolen or destroyed, together with all trees and bushes that were planted. Again, obscene wording was painted throughout the inside. Frequent toilet pluggings and light fixture damages occurred throughout this season.

No major damages occurred during the next season, although broken lights and fixtures, plugged toilets and human excrement, together with vomit, were common occurrences. The attendant was beaten twice while doing cleanup work at night following a complaint. The inside walls were repainted, as the walls were scrubbed bare when removing obscene literature.

During the 1970 season this area was remodeled by contract. Furnaces and insulation were placed so the facility could be opened on a year-around basis. All interior surfaces were painted and blower fans were placed by the toilets. Shortly after completion, fans in the west bound area were removed and on the east bound area, were destroyed. Outside doors were pulled off, causing the toilets to freeze during cold nights.

During the basketball tournament that year, all outside and inside lights were destroyed, inside toilet partition torn off, toilets plugged with beer cans, and again, obscene wording was painted on inside walls.

In the spring of 1971, maintenance forces placed 150 evergreen trees throughout both areas. The following weekend all of these trees were either stolen or destroyed. All of that season history was repeated: frequent toilet plugging with beer cans, broken light fixtures, and worst of all, the human filth.

The transformer and light meter was shot out during a cold snap in the winter months on the west bound area, causing all plumbing to rupture.

Until late in 1972, no major damage was done beyond regular toilet pluggings. In October 1972 all outside doors were pulled off, inside partitions broken, ventilation fans destroyed, light fixtures broken and most of the shrubbery was pulled up.

During the 1973 Butte basketball tournament, extensive filth, toilet pluggings, and light fixture damage occurred.

It is estimated that approximately $7,500 was spent repairing vandalism and damages the past seven years.

Highway Officials From Fifteen Western States To Gather June 18-21

Highway officials from 15 western states will meet in Montana June 18-21 for the first time in about 15 years, with the 1973 session to be in the Capital City.

Presiding at the 52nd annual conference of the Western Association of State Highway Officials (WASHO) will be its president, George Andrews, director of the Washington Department of Highways.

About 450 officials of state road agencies and industry representatives are expected for the event being held for the first time in Helena. The last WASHO conference in Montana was at Billings.

Member states are Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Federal agencies belonging to WASHO are the Highway Administration, Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and Geological Survey.

At the first general session, on June 19, Montana Highways Director H. J. Anderson will introduce Gov. Thomas L. Judge who will welcome the delegates to Montana.

Making the keynote address will be Stephen Quarles, Washington, D.C., special counsel for the U.S. Senate Interior Committee.

Reports are scheduled from these WASHO committees, with their chairmen: administration, George Baldwin, Oregon highway administrator; design, H. L. Arno, Texas secondary roads engineer; maintenance, Sam Lanford, Arizona assistant state engineer; construction, H. W. Humphres, assistant Washington state highways director; legal and right of way, D. H. Moehring, Oregon maintenance engineer; planning, Paul R. DeVine, Montana road planning and research chief; and federal roads, Blaine J. Kay, Utah highways director.

The Ladeabug And The Buttrfly

by Judy Albright, age 7

Wuss there was a ladeabug and a buttrfly. And thay like each uthr. So they had a bug weting.
And she buty a big house.
And everynite thay dast togethr.
And thay had a patte.
And thay dansted togethr.
And thay notsest thay wr bothe girls.